



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: S&S-99/1074a

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of  
Frank Ficker**

**Serial No.: 09/733,009**

**Confirmation No.: 3026**

**Filed: December 8, 2000**

**For: Process and Apparatus for  
Stretching Textile Fibers (as amended)**

**Examiner: Unknown**

**Art Unit: Unknown**

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The present Information Disclosure Statement is submitted for the Examiner's consideration in accordance with the Applicant's duty of disclosure.

A search report from the German Patent Office on the corresponding German patent application is submitted for the Examiner's consideration, as well as a copy of DE 199 49 961A1, cited by the German Patent Office. Applicant's duty to provide a concise statement of relevance of this reference is satisfied by the search report indicating the degree of relevance found by the German Patent Office in accordance with 1138 OG 38 of May 19, 1992, and MPEP § 609A(3). The remaining references contained in the search report are already of record.

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The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at his convenience should he have any questions regarding this matter or require any additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

DORITY & MANNING, P.A.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen E. Bondura", is written over a horizontal line.

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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In re Application of FRANK FICKER

Attorney Docket No.: S&S-99/1074a

Serial No.: 09/733,009

Date: June 19, 2001

Filed: DECEMBER 8, 2000

Art Unit: UNKNOWN

Confirmation No.: 3026

Our Account No.: 04-1403

Title: PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR STRETCHING TEXTILE FIBERS (AS AMENDED)

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

The following is an Information Disclosure Statement for the captioned patent application, pursuant to 37 CFR Sections 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98.

1. ☒ Attached hereto is:

- a. ☒ A list of materials for consideration per Rule 98(a)(1): 1 page(s)
- b. ☒ A legible copy of each patent, publication, or other item listed per Rule 98(1)(2), unless not required per Rule 98(c) and/or (d) and as indicated on the attached list(s):  
2 item(s)
- c. ☒ For each non-English language item listed, pursuant to Rule 98(a)(3), a concise explanation of the relevance thereof as it is presently understood by the individual designated in Rule 56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of such items: \_\_\_\_\_

☒ Such explanation is provided in the Search Report from a corresponding application enclosed herewith along with any enclosed translation into English.

2. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed [CHECK ONE]:

- a. ☐ WITHIN THREE MONTHS of the application filing date or national stage date of entry OR BEFORE the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, which ever event occurs last, WHEREFORE per Rule 97(b) NO filing fee or Rule 97(e) certificate is required.
- b. ☒ AFTER the time periods of section 2.a above, but BEFORE a Final Action, Notice of Allowance OR an action that otherwise closes prosecution, WHEREFORE PER Rule 97(c) submitted herewith is [CHECK ONE]:
  - i. ☒ Certification per Rule 97(e); OR
  - ii. ☐ Filing Fee per Rule 17(p) ..... \$180.00
- c. ☐ AFTER a Final Action OR Notice of Allowance, but BEFORE payment of the issue fee, WHEREFORE per Rule 97(d) submitted herewith is:
  - i. ☐ Certification per Rule 97(e); AND
  - ii. ☐ Filing fee per Rule 17(p) ..... \$180.00

3. ☒ Rule 97(e) Certification: per Rule 97(e), the undersigned certifying party make the following certification statement [CHECK ONE]:

- a. ☒ That each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; OR
- b. ☐ That no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and to the knowledge of the undersigned after making a reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in Rule 56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

CERTIFYING PARTY (if different from bottom signature; omission here indicates that certification is being made by signer per signature below).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

4. [x] DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AUTHORIZATION: The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any fees in addition to the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 (deficiency only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting official document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Account No. shown in the heading hereof for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached. This statement does not authorize charge of the issue fee in this case.

5. [X] CERTIFICATE OF MAILING: This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to [CHECK AND COMPLETE ONE]:

- a. [x] First Class Mail Certificate of Mailing under Rule 8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any referenced attachment and/or fee are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231, on JUNE 19, 2001.

JACQUELINE M. LEONARD

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- b. [ ] "Express Mail" Certificate under Rule 10:

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Date: JUNE 19, 2001

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